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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR

THURSDAY, MAR. 27, 1952

William Roscoe Brown

A TRIBUTE AND SKETCH
BY W. W. SUTTON

In the early morning of March 8, 1952, there passed from this earth, in his home in Arbovale, a man who was very useful to his country in many, many ways. William Roscoe Brown was born on Deer Creek, Green Bank District, Pocahontas County, August 19, 1879. This writer was just five months old when Roscoe first saw the light of day. His birth place and mine were near.

Roscoe's parents were the late Robert J. Brown and his wife Hester Hamilton Brown. On his father's side were Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Brown; on his mother's side were James Hamilton and Sarah Bruffey Hamilton, early settlers in that part of the county.

His early schooling was in the old Bruffey School on Deer Creek just above what was then known as the Heyeners Mill. He was always a good student. We went to school together. Our lives ran pretty much in the same stream of life. Our first teacher was Miss Allie Arbogast, the daughter of Franklin Arbogast. We often sat together in school, and many times got punished the same day for the same offense. Candidly, we were pals and close friends through all these years. And at last this scribe sat with the family, to share their sorrow, in the old Liberty Presbyterian Church, while the ministers conducted the obsequies.

The C. M. Howard evangelistic meetings were held in this church during the month of September 1895. And there many of the young people made their first public decision to lead the christian life. The Brown boys and myself were of the number. We took the vows of church membership on October 6, 1895. While in his early youth Roscoe was full of fun and mischief, he had a definite religious disposition which was good for him, and served well for the community. We went to song and prayer services, and one time in particular we sang, and prayed and talked to an aged man who was in need of Christ, and good results followed.

In the year 1907 Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Clara M. Hudson, daughter of the late J. L. Hudson and wife. The surviving children of this marriage are: Mrs. Mervlet Pennybacker of Wyandotte, Michigan, Mrs. Ethel Higgins of Fairmont, Mrs. Bessie Williams of Lewisburg, Layke Brown of Waynesboro, Virginia, Robert Brown of Arbovale and Johnnie Brown of the Air Force, Illinois. He leaves a brother Henry of Arbovale, and sisters, Mrs. Edward Baker, Detroit, Michigan, and Mrs. Sherman Bright of Deerfield, Virginia. After the death of his first wife he again married for his second wife Mrs. Sadie Woodell of Arbovale, who survives.

Roscoe Brown, following his father's example, became a carpenter, then took to surveying, and in this field did some outstanding work. He worked for the state in writing up historical events of Pocahontas County and in surrounding areas. The gov-

ernment employed him to look up old land grants, titles and deeds. Much of this was of real value. Toward his adult life he took an active interest in community events, in church, schools and many enterprises. For twelve years he served as a member of the Board of Education of Green Bank District. He took a personal, active interest in the building of the Green Bank District High School.

For the past eight years he has served as Deputy Sheriff for the county. Since 1918 he has been a member of the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows, and served for many years as secretary of the Winteburn Lodge No. 819, located at Green Bank.

Mr. Brown's work was characterized by accuracy and good quality. His surveys in Green Bank District, and data of early settlers and property owners was of special value to many of us. He told me last summer that he had a mass of data yet to be put into readable shape but was prevented by sickness.

No one knew this man's early life better than the present writer. In boyish play, in school, in sports, in social and religious life we were always together. His ideals were high, his life good and clean, his service to his country blameless. No wonder that one of your progressive citizens should approach me on the day of the burial and say, "Well Wallace, we have lost one of our best and most useful citizens."

Life here on earth is brief at best. Yet that brevity affords opportunity

To lay eternal foundations for
All that is good in our Father's house.

Buckhannon, West Virginia

For West Point

The Sydney Ohio, News publishes the good news that William Nottingham, aged 19 years, has been given the principal nomination to the United States Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1956. The young man is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Nottingham, Lockington, Ohio, formerly of Pocahontas County. The Congressman making the appointment is William M. McCulloch.

R. N. (Neal) Nottingham is a former Sheriff of Pocahontas County. In passing, let me remark too, that the young man is a great nephew of Robert Kerr, an honor graduate of West Point, Class of 1900.

I quote from the News:—"William H. Nottingham lived in Pocahontas County, West Virginia, as a child and small boy. He was an honor student and star athlete at Houston, Ohio, High School, graduating in 1949. He attended Otterbein College for a year, before going to work with the Sifton Fibre Can Company.

While in high school he won nine letters in basketball, baseball and track and was county pole vault champion. He was enrolled in the Future Farmers of America. Continuing his athletic interests in college, he played football, basketball and was pole vaulter on the track team.

Young Nottingham has been active in swimming and basketball at Piqua Y. M. C. A. He attended Camp Wakonda every year, except one, since he was twelve years old; was a Camp leader the past two years and belonged to the Boy Scouts."

Dog Lost

A Collie Dog, no collar, dark brown with some white; answers to name of Wiggles. Disappeared on March 3.

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